

Senior Seminar in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

SYLLABUS

Class: Thursdays, 12:00-12:50 PM in MRB 123

Instructor: Santiago Di Pietro Email: Santiago.dipietro@colostate.edu
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Office: MRB 281

Objectives:

- Learn to critically read and evaluate the scientific literature.
- Learn to organize hypotheses, methods, data, and conclusions for seminar.
- Learn to present hypotheses, methods, data, and conclusions as a seminar.
- Prepare the groundwork for your Senior Thesis.

Class Schedule:

8/23	Santiago Di Pietro - Introduction to the course <i>Presentation: Giving a good seminar</i> Appointment with Prof Di Pietro to discuss topic begin
8/30	Santiago Di Pietro - sample seminar Presentation schedule distributed
9/6	Student seminars begin
12/6	Student seminars end

Assignments:

- 1. Presentation topic (10%).** Due 2 weeks before your presentation (to instructor by email). The topic for your presentation should be on papers related to your thesis topic. You will need to have the reference to at least one paper to hand-in with your topic.
- 2. Abstract of presentation (25%).** Due 1 week before your presentation (by e-mail to instructor). One page, with title, 1 1/2 spacing, 12 pt, Times New Roman font, plus a list of literature cited on separate page.
- 3. Presentation (50%).** Should be based on at least two research papers from the primary literature (not review articles), with supporting papers to introduce and give perspective to the topic. Each presentation will be 20 minutes followed by questions and discussion. (1 presentation per week).
- 4. Presentation evaluations (15%).** Each student will evaluate each presentation using the evaluation forms. Your name and the speaker's name must be at the top of each form (the top will be cut off for anonymity).

Grading:

Traditional letter grades (A to F) will be assigned. The individual class assignments will constitute the percentage of your grade as indicated above. Written assignments will be graded for *spelling and grammar*, as well as content, organization, and proper references. Attendance for all lectures is mandatory. After the first unexcused absence, a student's final grade will be reduced by one grade for every additional unexcused absence.